

or participant may contest the findings in the same manner as applies to other information and findings relating to eligibility factors under the applicable program. Termination, denial, suspension, or reduction of assistance shall be carried out in accordance with requirements and procedures applicable to the individual covered program, and shall not occur until the expiration of any notice period provided by the statute or regulations governing the program.

[61 FR 11113, Mar. 18, 1996, as amended at 65 FR 16715, Mar. 29, 2000]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 65 FR 16715, Mar. 29, 2000, § 5.236 was amended by revising paragraphs (b)(1), (b)(3)(i)(B), and (C), effective Apr. 28, 2000. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§ 5.236 Procedures for termination, denial, suspension, or reduction of assistance based on information obtained from a SWICA or Federal agency.

* * * * *

(b) * * * (1) Any determination or redetermination of family income made on the basis of information verified in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements and procedures applicable to the individual covered program. Independent verification of information obtained from a SWICA or a Federal agency may be:

- (i) By HUD; and
- (ii) By a HA, when the benefit to be provided to the assistance applicant or participant is under a program in parts 880, 882, 886, 887, 891, 904, 950, or 960 of this title, including when the HA is the contract administrator for the owner.

* * * * *

(3) * * *
(i) * * *
(B) The HA, with respect to programs under parts 880, 882, 886, 887, 891, 904, 950, or 960 of this title for which the HA is responsible for determining eligibility or level of benefits; or

(C) The owner (or mortgagee, as applicable), with respect to programs under parts 215, 221, 235, 236, or 290 of this title, or when the owner is responsible under parts 880, 882, 886, 887, 891, 904, 950, or 960 of this title for determining eligibility or the level of assistance; or

* * * * *

§ 5.238 Criminal and civil penalties.

Persons who violate the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 3544 or 26 U.S.C. 6103(l)(7) with respect to the use and disclosure of income information may be subject to civil or criminal penalties under 42 U.S.C. 3544(c)(3), 26 U.S.C. 7213(a), or 18 U.S.C. 1905.

§ 5.240 Family disclosure of income information to the responsible entity and verification.

(a) This section applies to families that reside in dwelling units with assistance under the public housing program, the Section 8 tenant-based assistance programs, or for which project-based assistance is provided under the Section 8, Section 202, or Section 811 program.

(b) The family must promptly furnish to the responsible entity any letter or other notice by HUD to a member of the family that provides information concerning the amount or verification of family income.

(c) The responsible entity must verify the accuracy of the income information received from the family, and change the amount of the total tenant payment, tenant rent or Section 8 housing assistance payment, or terminate assistance, as appropriate, based on such information.

[65 FR 16715, Mar. 29, 2000]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 65 FR 16715, Mar. 29, 2000, § 5.240 was added, effective Apr. 28, 2000.

Subpart C—Pet Ownership for the Elderly or Persons With Disabilities

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 1701r-1 and 3535(d).

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

§ 5.300 Purpose.

(a) This subpart implements section 227 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983 (12 U.S.C. 1701r-1) as it pertains to projects for the elderly or persons with disabilities under:

(1) The housing programs administered by the Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner;

§ 5.303

(2) Projects assisted under the programs contained in chapter VIII of this title 24; and

(3) The public housing program.

(b) [Reserved]

[61 FR 5202, Feb. 9, 1996, as amended at 65 FR 16715, Mar. 29, 2000]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 65 FR 16715, Mar. 29, 2000, § 5.300 was amended by revising paragraph (a)(3), effective Apr. 28, 2000. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§ 5.300 Purpose.

(a) * * *

(3) The public housing programs administered by the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing under title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437, *et seq.*). This part does not apply to Indian housing administered under title II of that Act.

* * * * *

§ 5.303 Exclusion for animals that assist persons with disabilities.

(a) This subpart C does not apply to animals that are used to assist persons with disabilities. Project owners and PHAs may not apply or enforce any pet rules developed under this subpart against individuals with animals that are used to assist persons with disabilities. This exclusion applies to animals that reside in projects for the elderly or persons with disabilities, as well as to animals that visit these projects.

(1) A project owner may require resident animals to qualify for this exclusion. Project owners must grant this exclusion if:

(i) The tenant or prospective tenant certifies in writing that the tenant or a member of his or her family is a person with a disability;

(ii) The animal has been trained to assist persons with that specific disability; and

(iii) The animal actually assists the person with a disability.

(2) [Reserved]

(b) Nothing in this subpart C:

(1) Limits or impairs the rights of persons with disabilities;

(2) Authorizes project owners or PHAs to limit or impair the rights of persons with disabilities; or

(3) Affects any authority that project owners or PHAs may have to regulate

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animals that assist persons with disabilities, under Federal, State, or local law.

§ 5.306 Definitions.

Common household pet means:

(1) *For purposes of Housing programs:* A domesticated animal, such as a dog, cat, bird, rodent (including a rabbit), fish, or turtle, that is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes. Common household pet does not include reptiles (except turtles). If this definition conflicts with any applicable State or local law or regulation defining the pets that may be owned or kept in dwelling accommodations, the State or local law or regulation shall apply. This definition shall not include animals that are used to assist persons with disabilities.

(2) *For purposes of Public Housing programs:* PHAs may define the term "common household pet" under § 5.318.

Elderly or disabled family means:

(1) *For purposes of Housing programs:* An elderly person, a person with a disability, or an elderly or disabled family for purposes of the program under which a project for the elderly or persons with disabilities is assisted or has its mortgage insured.

(2) *For purposes of Public Housing programs:* (i) An elderly person, a person with a disability, or an elderly or disabled family as defined in § 5.403 in subpart A of this part.

(ii) [Reserved]

Housing programs means:

(1) The housing programs administered by the Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner; and

(2) The programs contained in chapter VIII of this title 24 that assist rental projects that meet the definition of project for the elderly or persons with disabilities in this subpart C.

Project for the elderly or persons with disabilities means:

(1) *For purposes of Housing programs:* (i) A specific rental or cooperative multifamily property that, unless currently owned by HUD, is subject to a first mortgage, and:

(A) That is assisted under statutory authority identified by HUD through notice;